

PENQUIS DISTRICT: Environmental Health

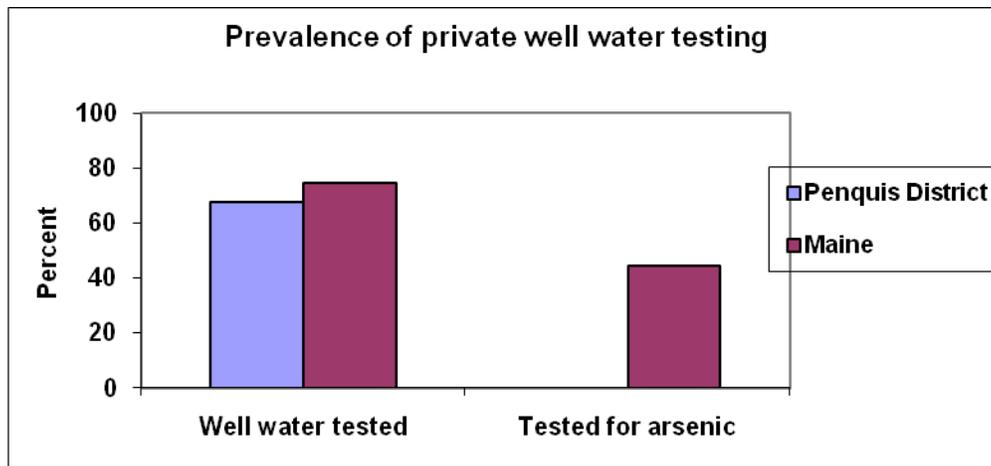
Private Well Water Testing

More than half of Maine’s population relies on a private well for their drinking water. Many Maine wells have unsafe levels of arsenic, radon and uranium - chemicals that can cause cancer or other health effects.

Testing is the only way to know if the well water is safe to drink.

To find out more about drinking water and where to get water test kits in Maine go to:

www.wellwater.maine.gov/



*Source: 2003 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

Note: Arsenic test data for Penquis District considered unreliable due to small number of survey respondents, therefore, no data presented.

	Penquis District Percent (± Margin of Error)	Maine State Percent (± Margin of Error)
Homes with private well water tested*	67.5 (±8.5)	74.6 (±2.7)
Homes with private well water tested for arsenic*		44.6 (±3.9)

*Source: 2003 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

Note: Arsenic test data for Penquis District considered unreliable due to small number of survey respondents, therefore, no data presented.

Public Drinking Water Systems

Safe drinking water is essential to protecting good human health. Maine citizens and visitors enjoy access to excellent quality drinking water from many lakes, rivers and underground aquifers. More than 2,000 public water systems provide drinking water to over half of Maine’s population and many guests.

Local public water systems must comply with the federal [Safe Drinking Water Act](#) and state regulations, including protecting source water areas and maintaining or improving local water system infrastructure. Communities can take charge by working together to protect shared drinking water sources.

The Maine Drinking Water Program in the Maine CDC assists communities with technical assistance, grants and funding. FMI contact: www.mainepublichealth.gov

Total Number of DISTRICT Community Water Systems		Total DISTRICT Population Served by Community Drinking Water Systems	
62		80,812	
Total Number of DISTRICT Water Quality Violations Documented in 2006	Total Number of DISTRICT Systems in Which Violations Occurred	Total DISTRICT Population Served by Community Water Systems with a Violation(s)	
7	4	3423	
Percent of DISTRICT Community Water Systems Meeting all Health Based Standards		Percent of MAINE Community Water Systems Meeting all Health Based Standards	
93.55%		79.84%	
Percent of DISTRICT Population Served by Community Water Systems Meeting all Health Based Standards		Percent of MAINE Population Served by Community Water Systems Meeting all Health Based Standards	
95.76%		86.74%	

Total Number of DISTRICT Community Water Systems with a Wellhead Protection Plan		Total Population Served by DISTRICT Community Water Systems with Wellhead Protection	
54		63,923	
Percent of DISTRICT Community Water Systems with Source Water Protection in Place	Percent of MAINE Community Water Systems with Source Water Protection in Place	Percent of MAINE Population served by Community Water Systems with Source Water Protection in Place	
87.10%	83.72%	78.49%	